

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1115

Introduced by Assembly Member Yee

February 22, 2005

An act to add Article 3 (commencing with Section 4950) to Chapter 12 of Division 2 of the Business and Professions Code, relating to healing arts.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1115, as introduced, Yee. Acupuncture assistants.

Existing law provides for the licensure and regulation of acupuncturists by the Acupuncture Board.

This bill would define the term "acupuncture assistant" and set forth the scope of services that an acupuncture assistant is authorized to perform. The bill would require the board to adopt and administer regulations establishing standards for acupuncture supportive services that may be performed by an acupuncture assistant.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Article 3 (commencing with Section 4950) is
2 added to Chapter 12 of Division 2 of the Business and
3 Professions Code, to read:

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5 Article 3. Acupuncture Assistants

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7 4950. As used in this chapter, the following terms have the
8 following meanings:

1 (a) “Acupuncture assistant” means a person who may be
2 unlicensed who performs basic administrative, clerical, and
3 acupuncture supportive services in compliance with this article
4 for a licensed acupuncturist or acupuncture corporation, who is at
5 least 18 years of age, and who has had at least the minimum
6 amount of hours of appropriate training pursuant to standards
7 established by the board. The acupuncture assistant shall be
8 issued a certificate by the training institution or instructor
9 indicating satisfactory completion of the required training. A
10 copy of the certificate shall be retained as a record by each
11 employer of the acupuncture assistant.

12 (b) “Acupuncture supportive services” means simple routine
13 acupuncture tasks and procedures that may be safely performed
14 by an acupuncture assistant who has limited training and who
15 functions under the supervision of a licensed acupuncturist.

16 (c) “Supervision” means the supervision of procedures
17 authorized by this article by a licensed acupuncturist within the
18 scope of his or her practice, who shall be physically present in
19 the treatment facility during the performance of those procedures.

20 4951. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an
21 acupuncture assistant may perform acupuncture supportive
22 services under the supervision of a licensed acupuncturist.

23 4952. The board shall adopt and administer regulations that
24 establish standards for acupuncture supportive services that may
25 be performed by an acupuncture assistant.

26 4953. A supervising acupuncturist or acupuncture corporation
27 may provide written instructions to be followed by an
28 acupuncture assistant in the performance of tasks or acupuncture
29 supportive services.

30 4954. Nothing in this article shall be construed as authorizing
31 the licensure of acupuncture assistants. Nothing in this article
32 shall be construed as authorizing the board to adopt any
33 regulations that violate the prohibitions on diagnosis or treatment
34 in Section 2052.